February 15, 1982

Dear Harold,

Here's the latest newsletter (3 EOC 8), and the items you requested in your letter of 12/24. Also, some of my address labels for you to use:

The Vaughan report, which you asked about, is indeed rather long - about 70 pages, with appendices - and I don't think it's worth your time or money to get a copy. The only really significant thing in it is the observation of the "hold everything secure" message. There are other attempts at analysis, but nothing persuasive.

On Congressional hearings: one of my sources is (or at least was) confident that they would happen, but various other people think he's whistling in the dark. If they happen, they would presumably be within the House Judiciary Committee. Rep. Conyers' name was mentioned, but someone called his office and couldn't find anyone there who knew anything about it. Presumably, if anyone knows, Stokes' office would.

Phil Melanson, a faculty member in a Massachusetts college, asked me about the FBI taps reportedly done for the WC in 1964. I told him that you would be the best source on this. If you can just direct him to the relevant FBI released, he can probably get what he needs from the FBI.

At first glance, it looks to me like the documents you sent allowed the Kennedy family to give the government just what they wanted to give, nothing more. I don't see any direct relevance to the autopsy material. (Or, for that matter, to the JFK tapes which have just made the headlines.) I think you're right; some people are pleased whenever there is news to make JFK look bad. I'll keep this material confidential, as you requested.

Thanks for sending me the HQ-to-Dallas FBI airtel about getting Bowles' info. I trust that this item is not for my eyes only (you didn't say anything to that effect.) It might be of interest to someone who has been trying to get FBI records on the acoustics. And Bowles may turn out to be an important figure, if the NAS panel pays too much attention to his work. He has been very coy about his report; supposedly he got upset that the FBI gave it to the NAS panel, or something like that. Anyway, I would like to list this item in the newsletter, eventually. It looks like it came from the Dallas FBI file.

Your 9/22 mentioned a med tech who told you what he thought of Humes and Boswell. Interesting, but there's nothing I can do with this kind of information. Would you like me to pass it on to Lifton? (The name you mentioned - O'Connell - means nothing to me either.)

You must have been delighted to have Livingstone drop in on you when you were talking to the AP reporter! I've had a couple of phone conversations with him, and that's more than enough. It's too bad that he's about the most active person in the medical-evidence area.

I haven't been doing much lately, except the acoustics. Ramsey was to return from France on 2/12 and is presumably working on the final changes to the report right now. I am pushing my request for the last batch of CIA documents, with Bud's help. I'm looking forward to getting back to reading documents.

Thanks for your other letters also, and the documents you sent. I do appreciate your keeping me informed about your work.

With best regards,

Paul